



Vermont Department of Health Laboratory

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**Instructions for Collection and Packaging of Public Drinking Water
Samples for Blue-Green Algae Toxin (Kit BGA-2)**

Please Read Instructions Carefully Before Collecting Sample

Kit BGA-2 Contents:

- 1 - sample submittal form (ORTox 202 BGA Toxin Request for Analysis)
- 2 - 40mL sample vials with septum caps
- 2 – labels for sample vials
- 1 – prepaid return mailing label
- 1 – ice pack (keep frozen until used)
(paper towels recommended but not provided)

Kits can be stored at room temperature until needed

Collection of Sample Instructions

1. Identify a source of finished drinking water from which a sample can be drawn into a vial provided in the kit. This can be from finished water storage or at a point where the water enters the distribution system.
2. Uncap one of the vials and collect a sample from the tap. Cap and dry the outside of the vial. Write collection information on one label and place it on the vial.
3. Collect another sample of water in the same manner from a source of raw water, preferably from the intake stream just before it is filtered and disinfected. Cap and dry the outside of the vial. Write collection information on one label and place it on the vial.
4. Provide the requested information on the submittal form for each sample. Place form and samples in the return shipment container.
5. Keep samples cool. Use the ice pack in the shipping container for cool transport to the laboratory. Deliver or ship samples by first class mail to the laboratory as soon as possible.